

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.
Currently, claims 1-26 are pending in this application.

Oath/Declaration:

The Oath or Declaration was indicated as being defective because: a. It does not properly identify the foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate on which priority is claimed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.55, and any foreign application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed, by specifying the application number, country, day, month and year or its filing; and b. It does not properly indicate the identity of inventors pursuant to MPEP §201.13, II, C. Applicant has attached hereto an Application Data Sheet which indicates the applications on which priority is claimed by specifying each application number, country, day, month and year of its filing. The Application Data Sheet also properly indicates the identity of each of the inventors. Applicant has also attached a Request to Acknowledge Claim for Foreign Priority which indicates the applications on which priority is claimed by specifying each correct application number, country, day, month and year of its filing.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection of the Oath or Declaration be withdrawn.

Drawings:

The drawings were objected to because of numerous reasons. Through amendments to the drawings and/or specification, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the objections to the drawings have been resolved. In particular, Applicant submits that all of the reference characters described in the written specification are shown in the

drawings, and all of the reference characters illustrated in the drawings are mentioned in the written specification. Applicant notes that reference character “1321” is mentioned in page 30 of the written specification and reference characters “2001”, “2003”, “2005” and “2007” are mentioned on page 48 of the written specification.

Objections to the Disclosure:

The disclosure was objected to because of the many informalities alleged in sections 6-9 of the Office Action. Applicant respectfully requests that these objections be withdrawn. For example, a new title has been provided in accordance with the Examiner’s helpful comments in section 6 of the Office Action. With respect to section 8(b) of the Office Action, Figs. 3 and 5 of the application present a first and second embodiment, respectively. Consistent with the description provided on page 14, line 25 *et seq.* of the written specification which states “The second embodiment includes a coordinator 305 for co-ordinating tasks to be executed by the computer system 100, but the world model 313 functionality is provided by the diary assistant 211....”, Fig. 5 has been editorially revised to explicitly indicate diary assistant 211. Differences between the embodiments illustrated in Figs. 3 and 5 can be appreciated from the discussion, for example, on page 14, line 22 - page 18, line 20 of the specification. With respect to section 9(e) of the Office Action, Applicant notes that claim 26 has been rewritten in independent form.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objections to the disclosure be withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §101:

Claims 14-22 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Claims 14-22 and 26 have been amended so as to make it clear that they are directed to statutory subject matter. For example, claim 14 has been amended to explicitly require a method of operating a data processing apparatus to allocate a time with respect to an event in a scheduling system. Accordingly, Applicant thus submits the Office Action's allegation that "In the present application, a human being can perform the process steps as recited in claims 14-22 using paper and pencil, without applying, involving, using, or advancing technology" is erroneous.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112:

Claims 13-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Applicant submits that these claims are in full conformance with 35 U.S.C. §112 and thus respectfully requests that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn. For example, Applicant submits that all recited elements have a proper antecedent basis. With respect to section 11(b) of the Office Action, Applicant notes that the recitation of "event" may be any event. The breadth of the claim is not to be equated with indefiniteness. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103:

Claims 1-16, 23, 24 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Koreeda (U.S. '731). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

For a reference to anticipate a claim, each element must be found, either expressly or under principles of inherency, in the reference. Each element of the claimed invention is not found in Koreeda. For example, Koreeda fails to disclose the following limitations required by independent claim 1 (similar, but not necessarily identical comments apply to independent claims 14 and 26):

“(iii) means arranged to access a temporal schedule which stores associated allocated times in respect of at least one previously allocated event;...”

and where the apparatus includes processing means for:

“(b) reviewing temporal preference information corresponding to at least one previously allocated event, together with the temporal preference information for the processable event in order to identify an available time for the processable event in the temporal schedule that satisfies both types of the temporal preference information corresponding to both of the at least one processing allocated event and of the processable event.”

Koreeda describes a system that schedules conference meetings for a plurality of conference attendees. Scheduling of the conference meetings involves finding a time that is convenient to all of the attendees finding a venue that can accommodate the number and requirements of the attendees. This scheduling can be an extremely time consuming process, and the complexity scales with the number of attendees and requirements dimensions. Koreeda is therefore concerned with the problems of existing conference scheduling systems, where, as soon as one of the attendees indicates that the suggested time is inconvenient, the initiator has to backtrack and suggest a new time, and send this out to all of the attendees. It is thus also concerned with reducing the amount of time that conference organizers and attendees spend trying to find a mutually convenient venue and time for the conference.

The solution proposed by Koreeda is a system that sends conference invitations to attendees, the invitations having fields within which the attendee can specify a range of convenient dates and locations. The system can then identify a time a location that is acceptable to conference attendees. The system additionally rates conference attendees in terms of their deemed importance, and this rating is factored into the process of identifying a time and location.

As noted above, independent claim 1 requires the identification of a time for a processable event being determined with respect to at least one other event scheduled into the temporal schedule. Koreeda, however, is only concerned with scheduling of a single event based on inputs from a plurality of conference attendees.

There is no mention in Koreeda of concerns relating to scheduling events with respect to other events, and thus the technical problems that are faced with scheduling many events into a schedule encountered in Koreeda. In fact, the system developed in Koreeda teaches away from the present invention: Koreeda teaches a system having many inputs for which it is trying to allocate a single mutually convenient time. Thus, if one of ordinary skill in the art were to engineer the system disclosed in the present invention according to Koreeda, he/she would attempt to allocate all of the events the same time, whereas one benefit of the present invention is to allocate different times to each of the events.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 be withdrawn.

Claims 17-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Koreeda in view of Applicant Admitted Prior Art. Claim 24 was rejected under 35

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U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Koreeda in view of Barr (U.S. '705).

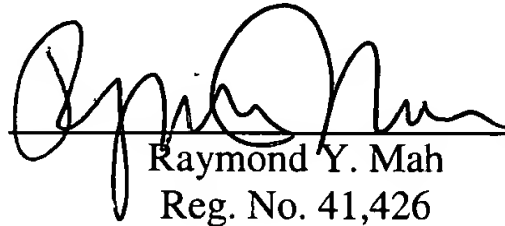
Claim 25 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Koreeda in view of Barr in further view of Hutchinson (U.S. '670). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. None of Applicant Admitted Prior Art, Barr and/Hutchinson remedies the above described deficiencies of Koreeda. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the above noted rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

Conclusion:

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1, 2, 5, 6, 13, 14a-14b, 18, 19, 20, 23b, 26 and 29. These sheets, which include Figs. 1, 2, 5, 6, 13, 14a-14b, 18, 19, 20, 23b, 26 and 29, replace the original sheets including these figures. The amendments to the drawings address the many objections set forth in the Office Action. The amendments to the drawings can be appreciated through the attached annotated sheets showing changes.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet(s)
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

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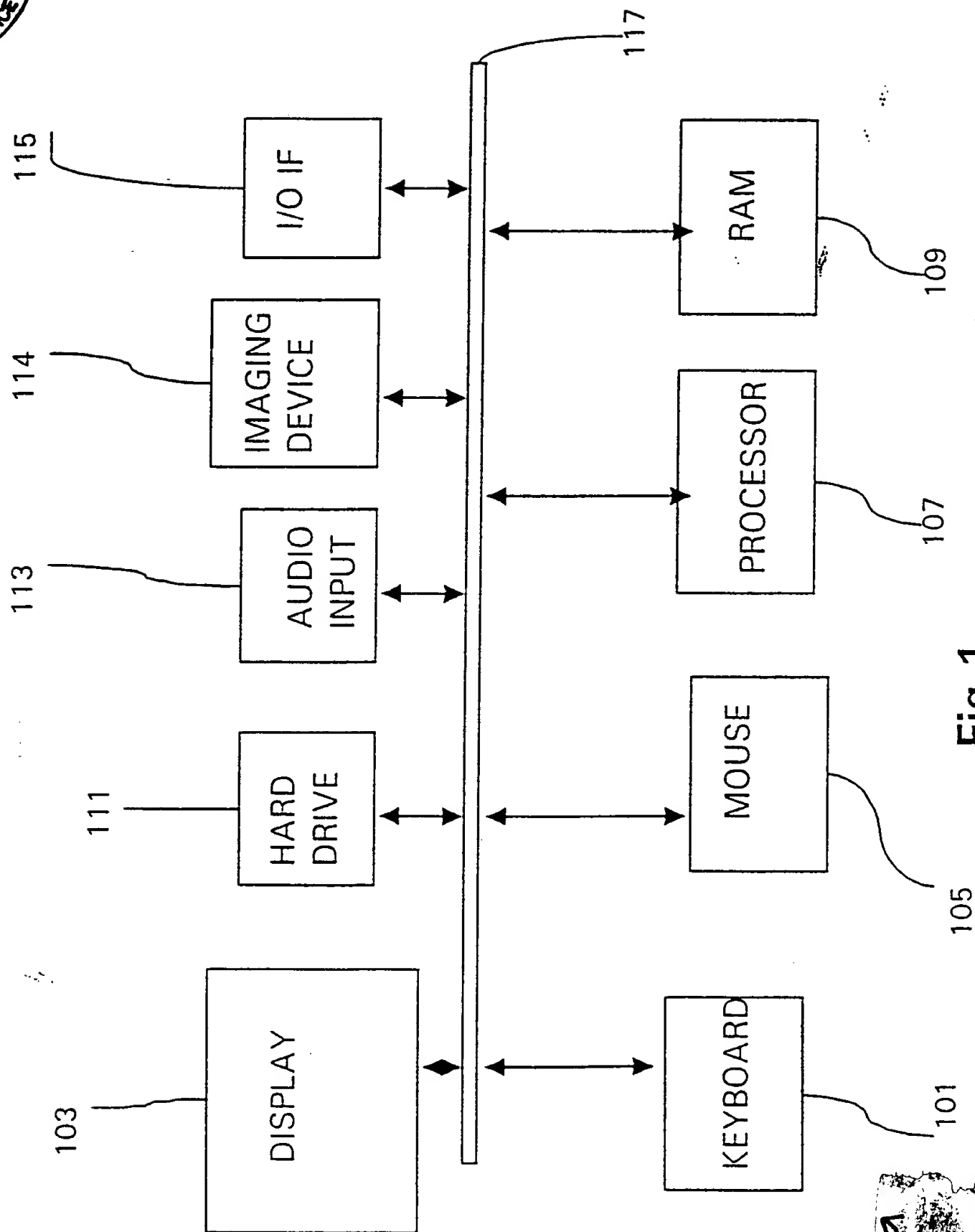


Fig 1



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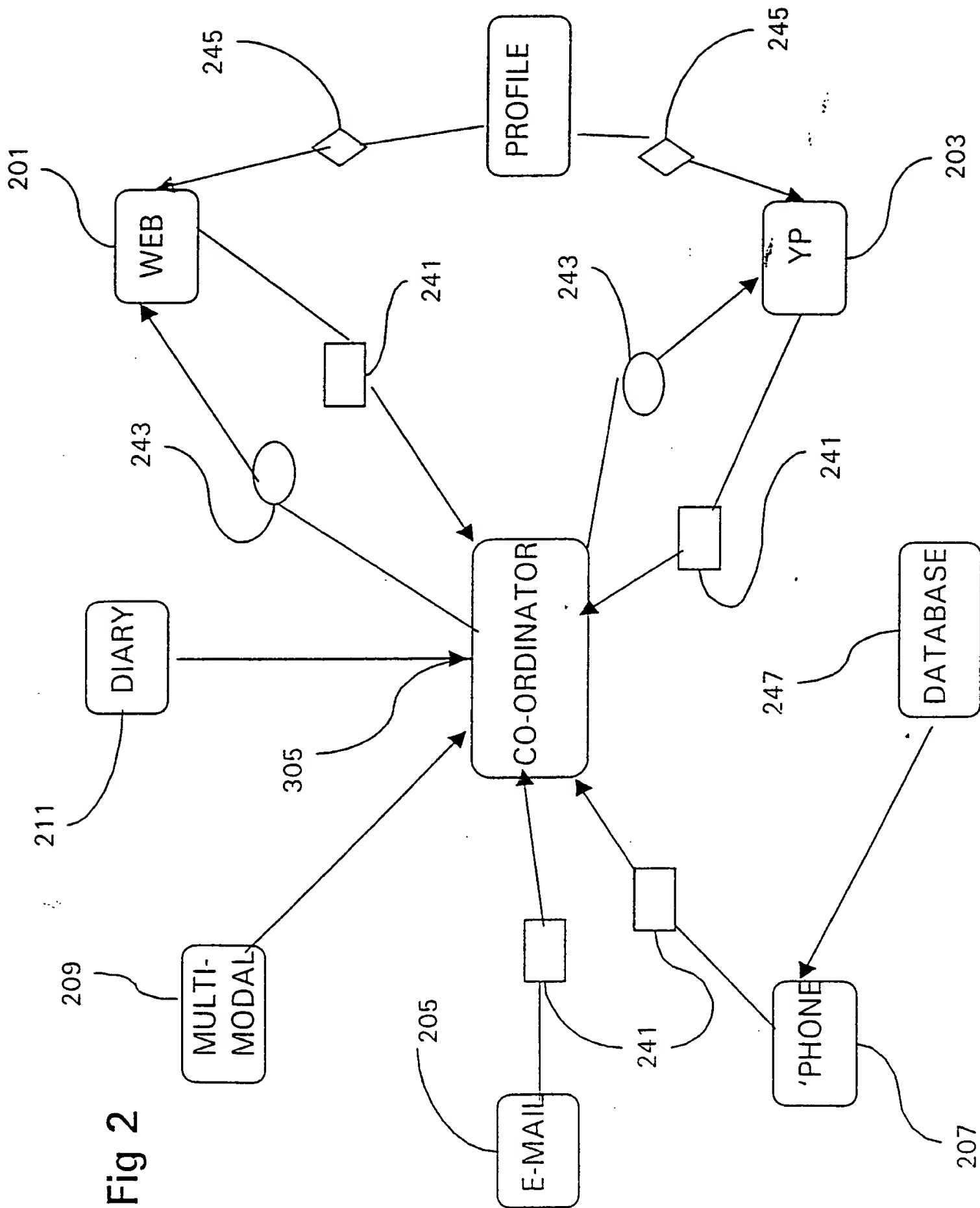


Fig 2

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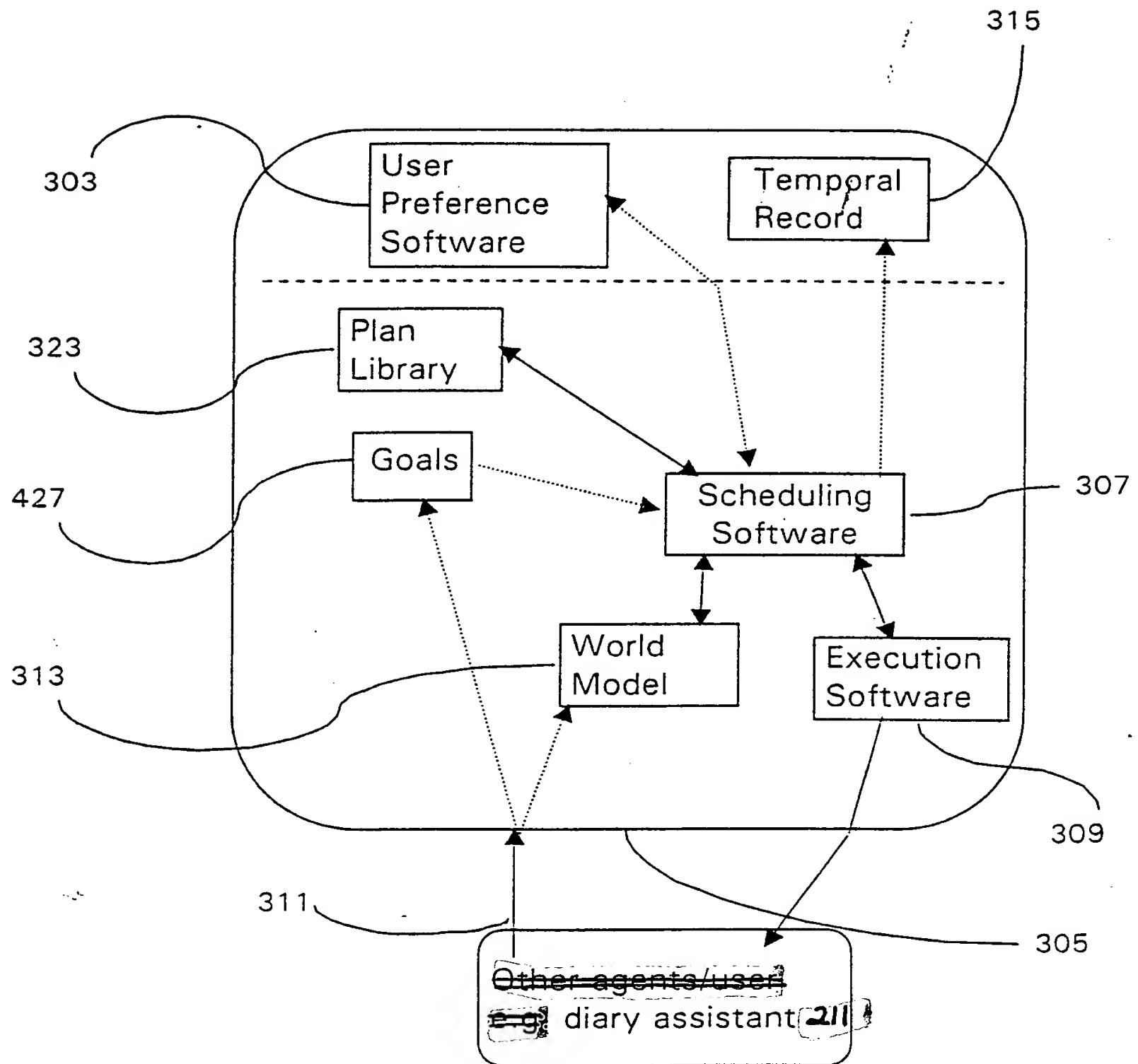


Fig 5

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609

601

604

603

605

619

621

607

611

613

615

617

Early Morning

Late Morning

Afternoon

Around

hrs am/pm

Edit Task

Preferred Start time

Approx. duration

Task Description

Deadline day

Deadline time

Meeting

Interruption

Presentation

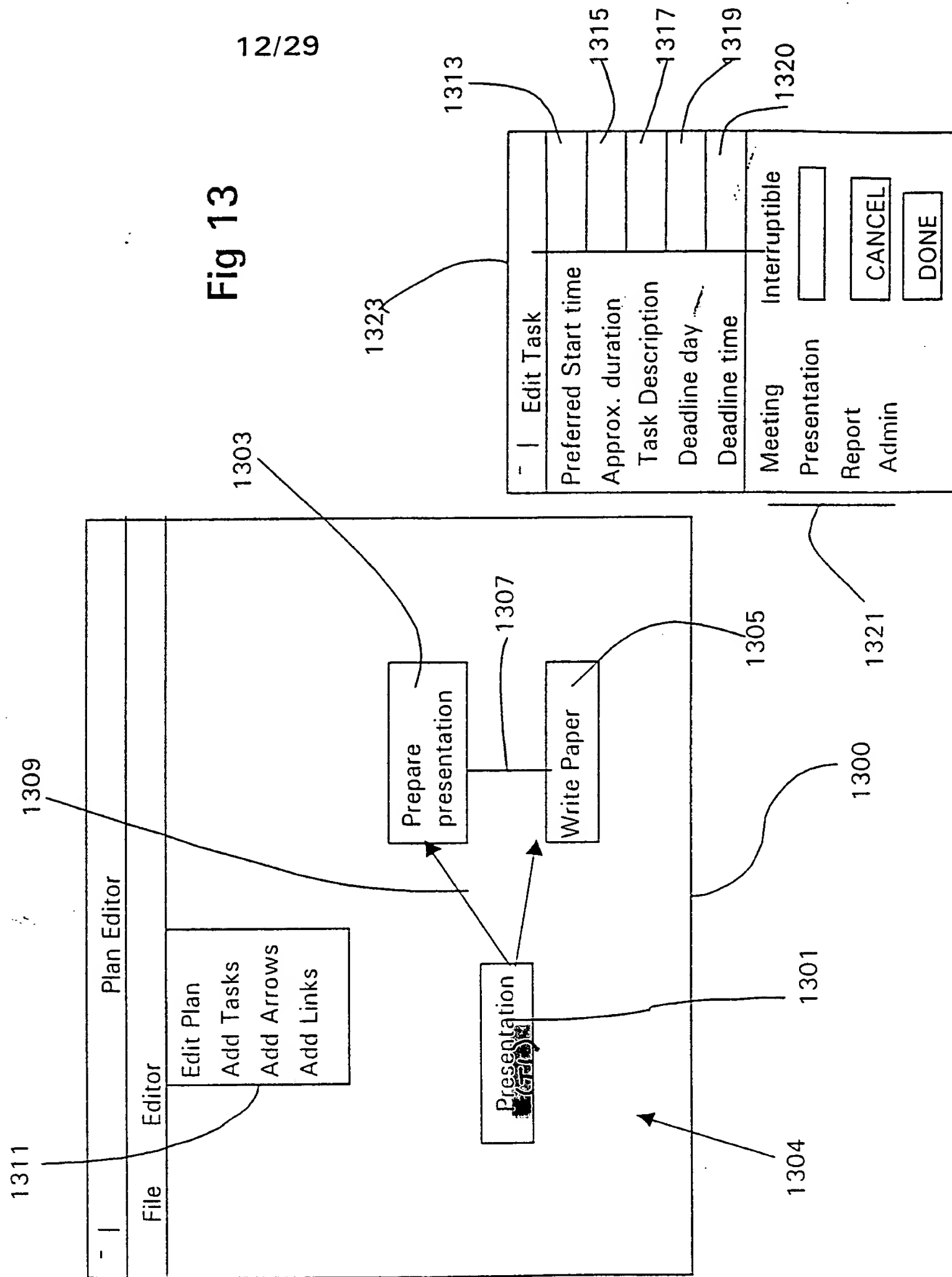
Report

Admin

CANCEL

DONE

Fig 6



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Fig 14a

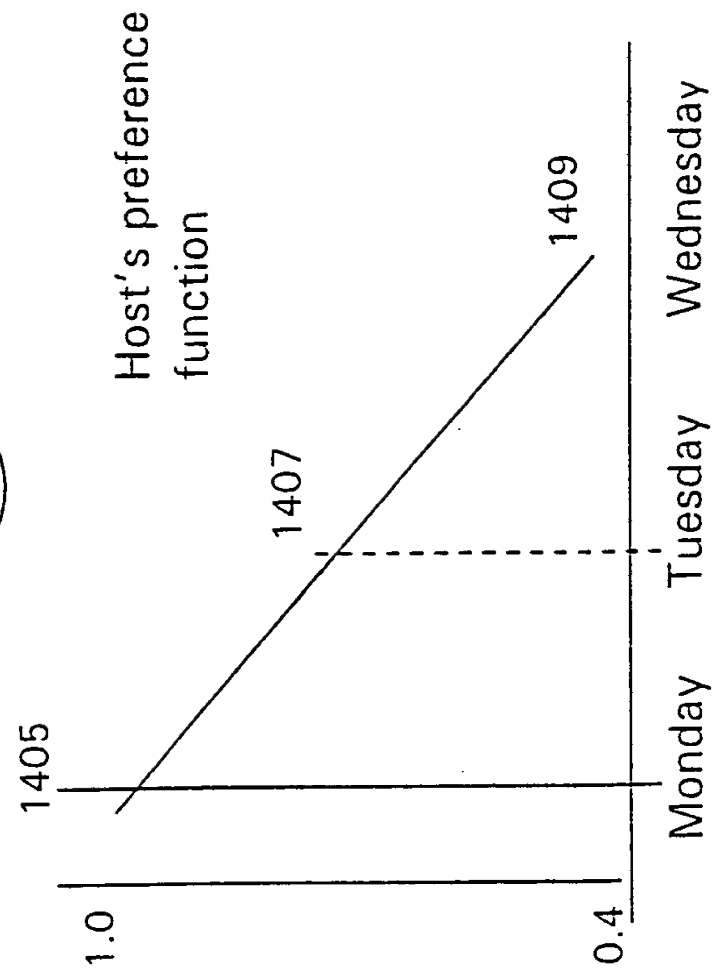
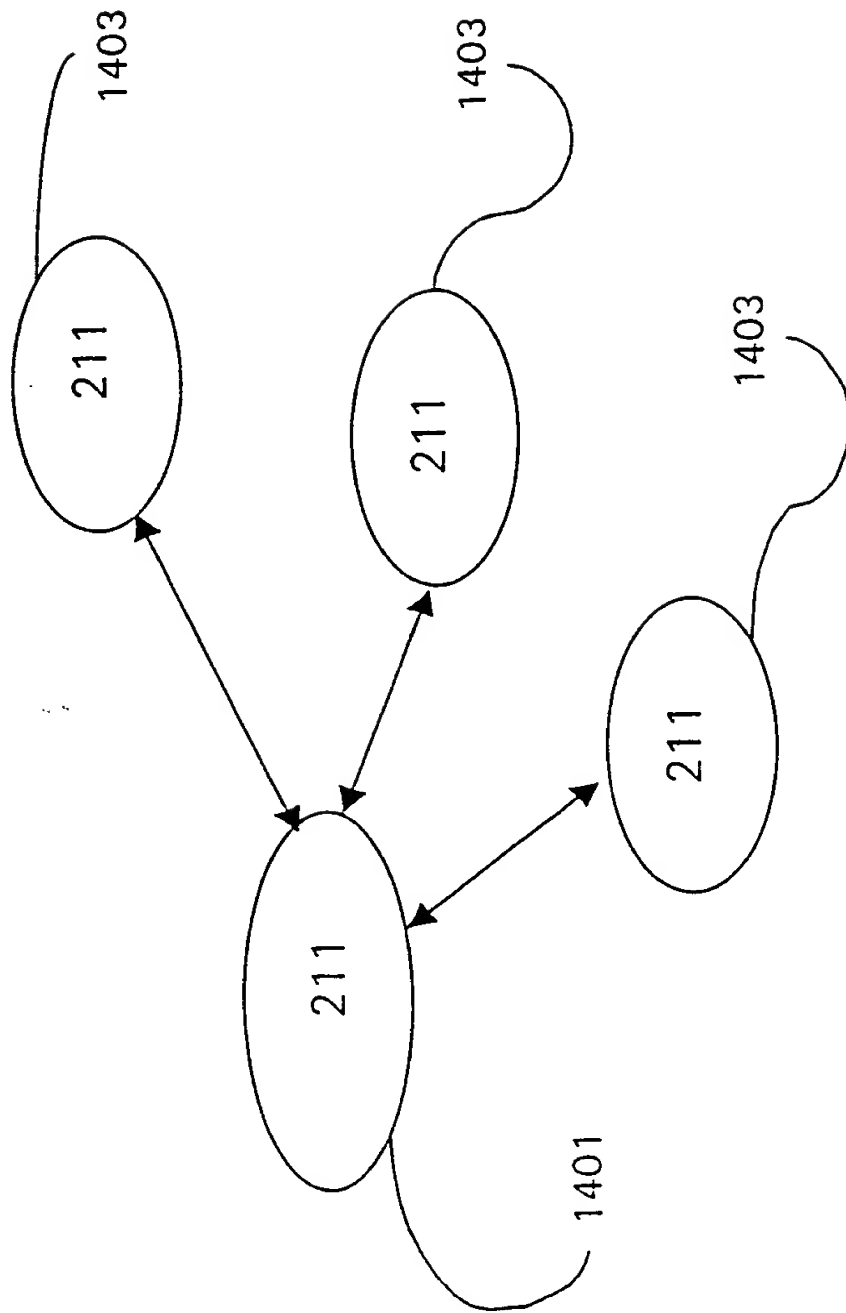
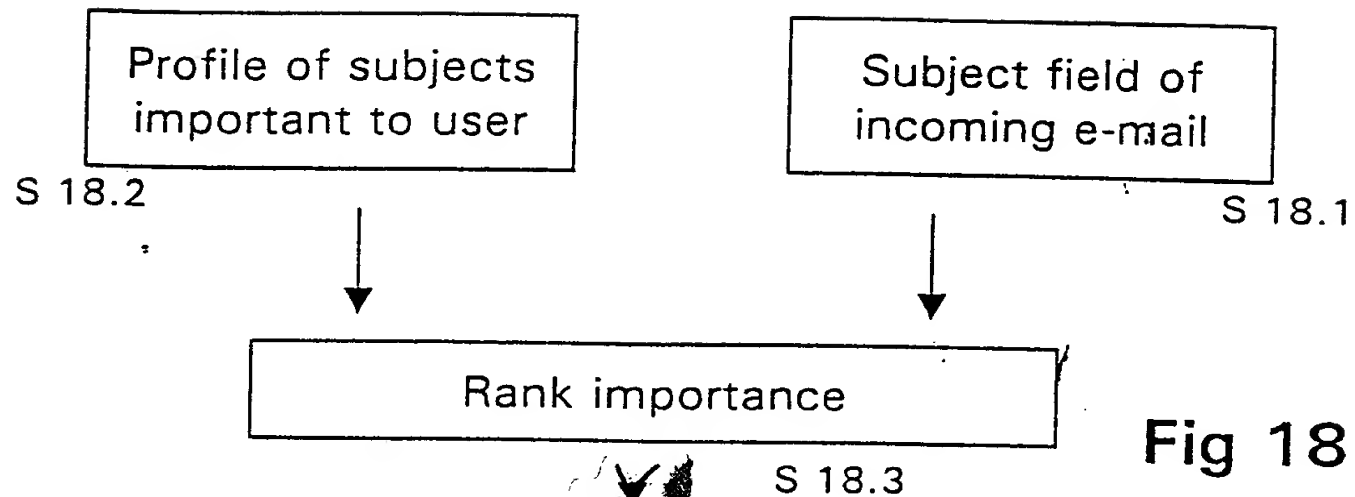


Fig 14b

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~~Profile of subjects important to user~~

~~Monitor history of reading previously received e-mails~~

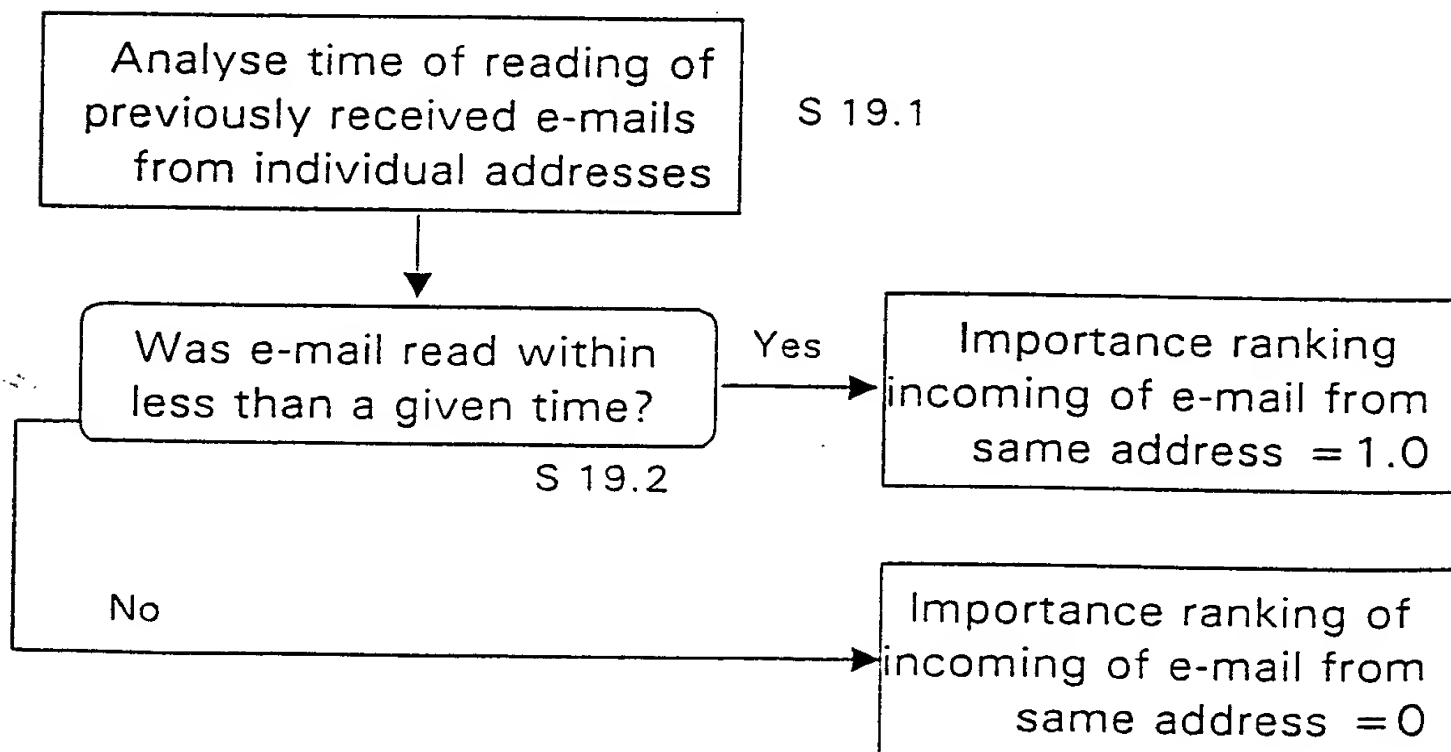
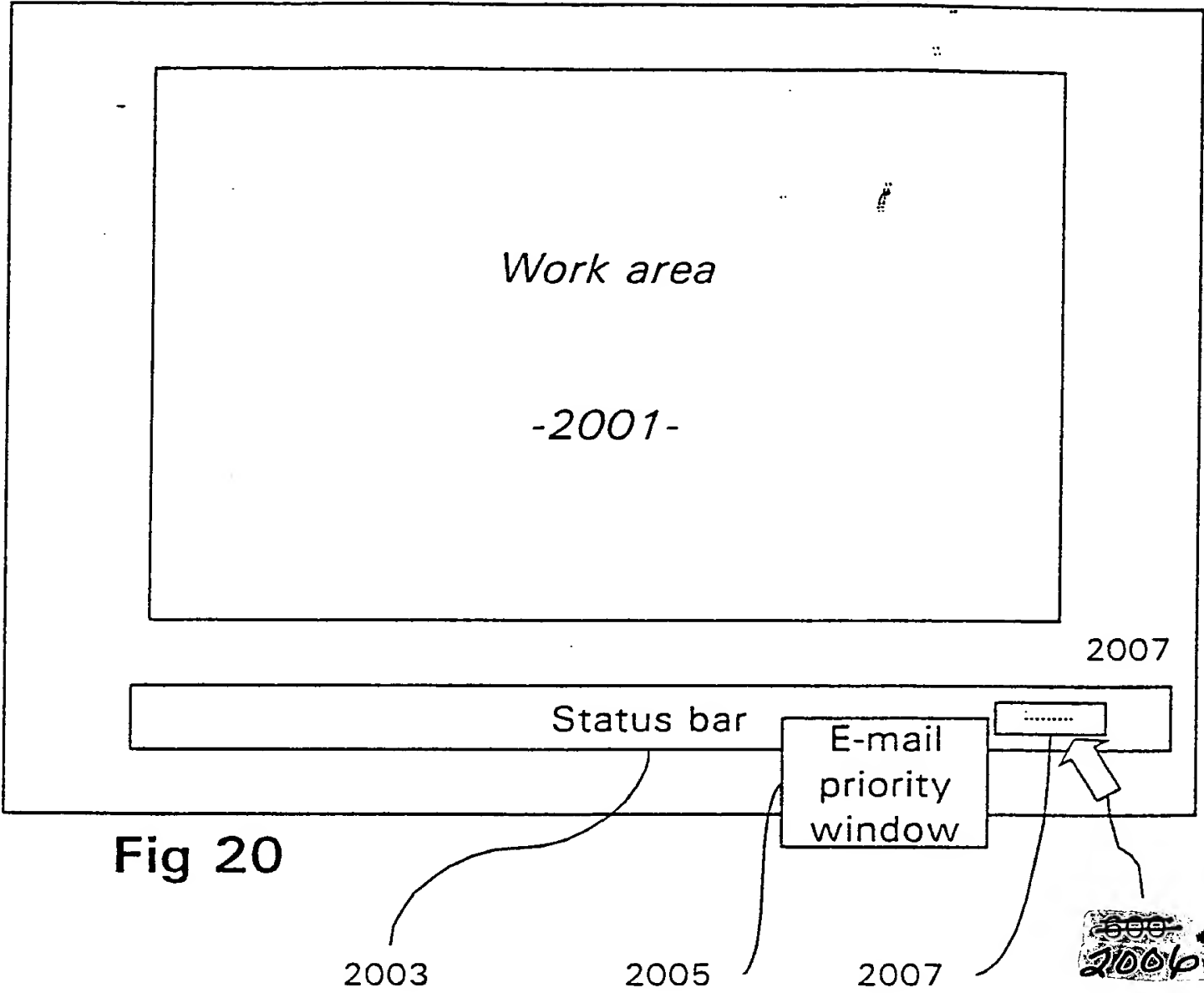


Fig 19



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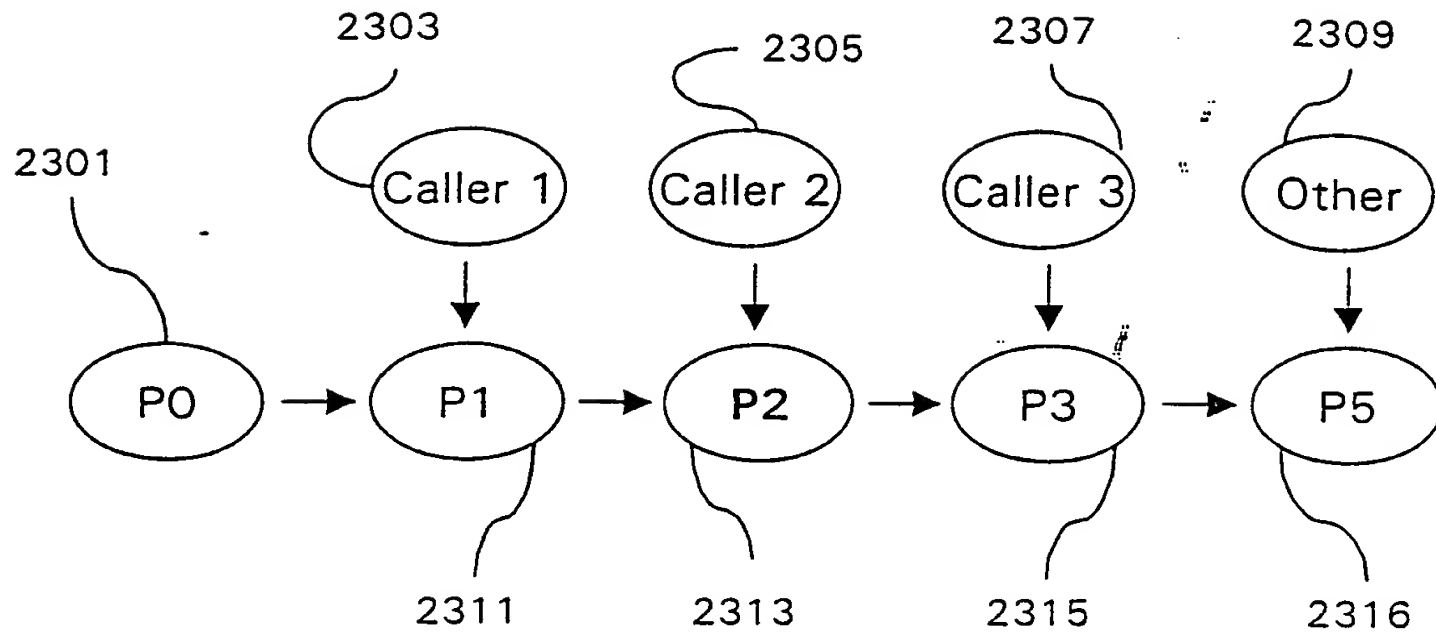


Fig 23a

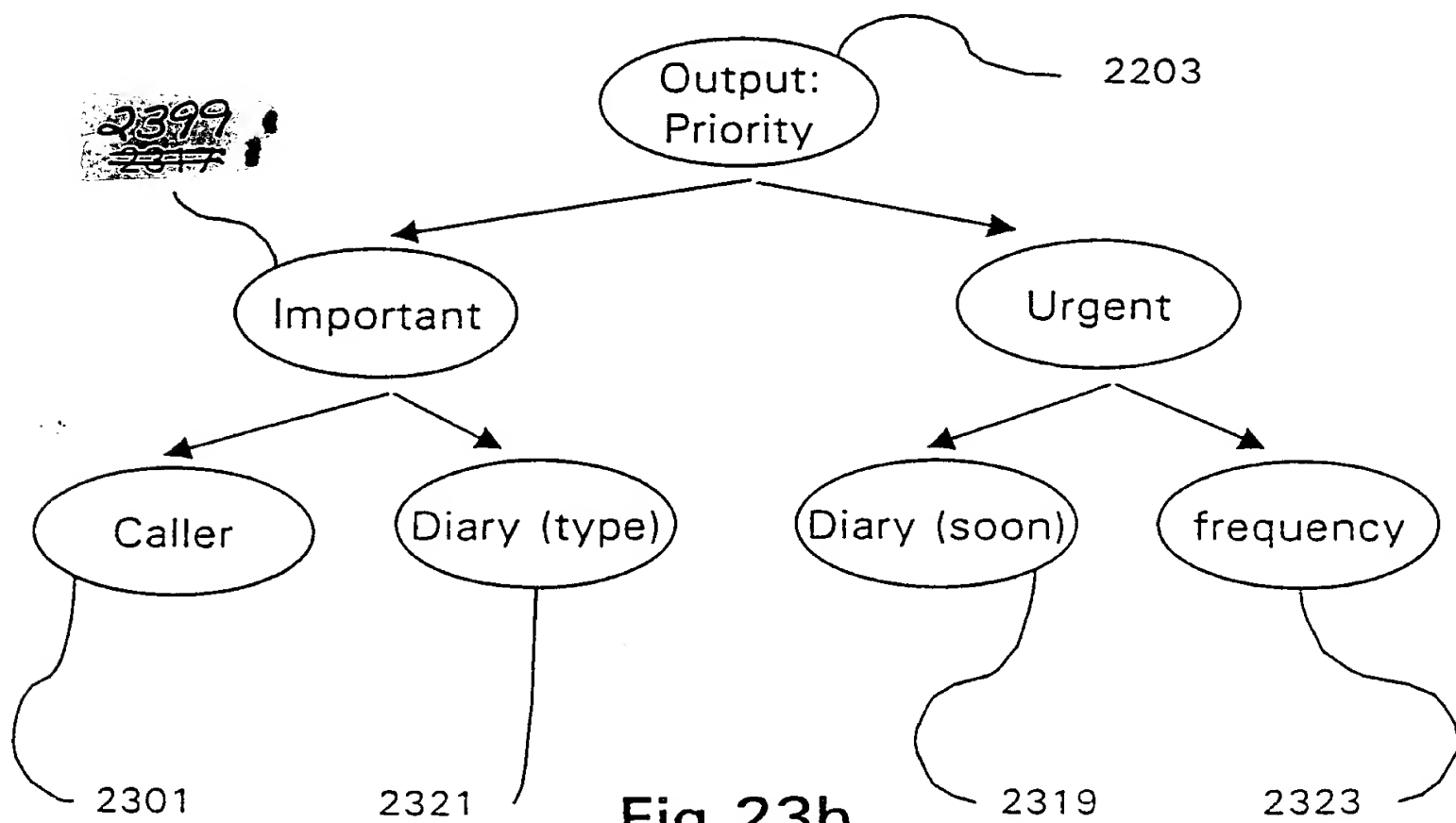
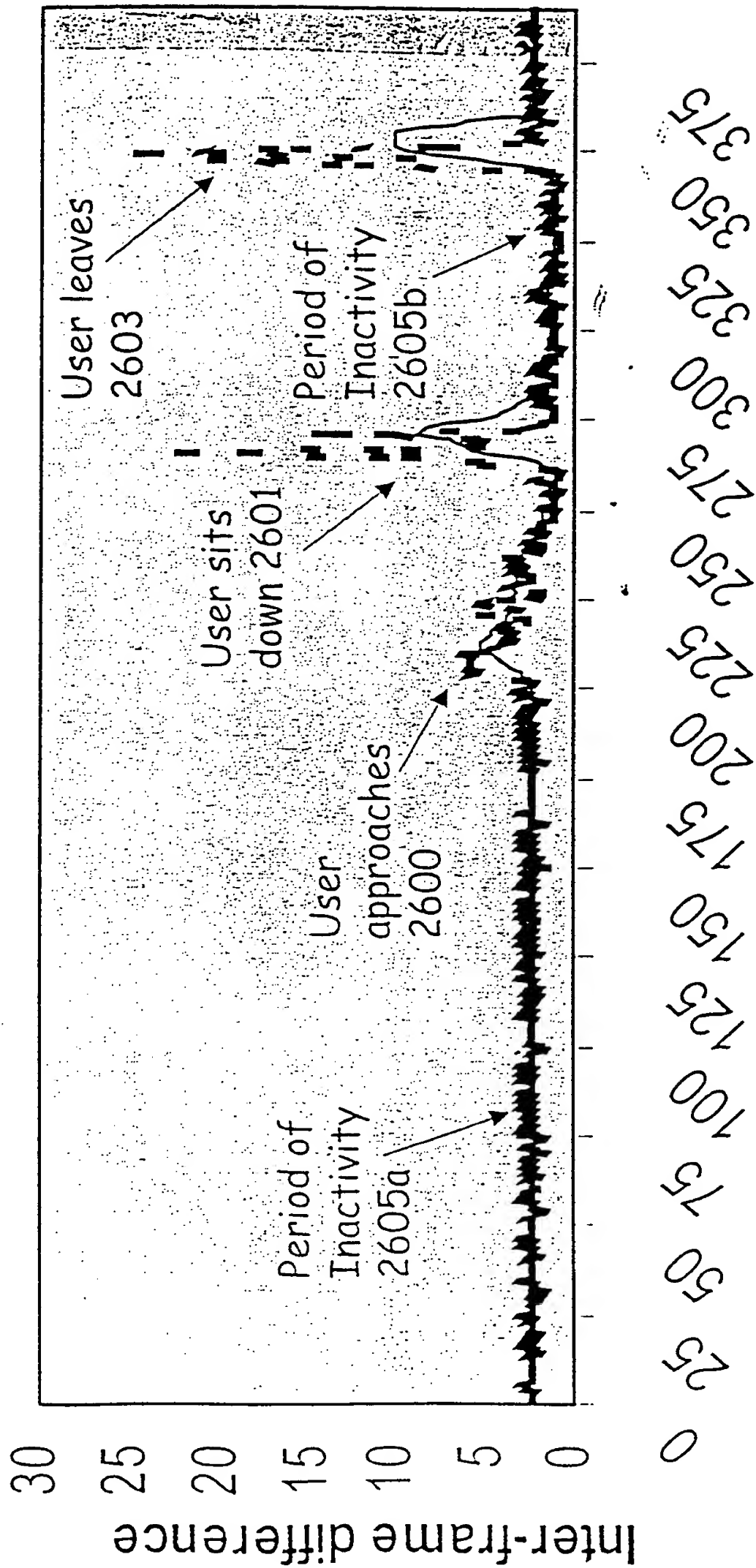


Fig 23b

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--- raw data — moving average



Time Step

Fig 26

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~~Monitor stress level of user~~

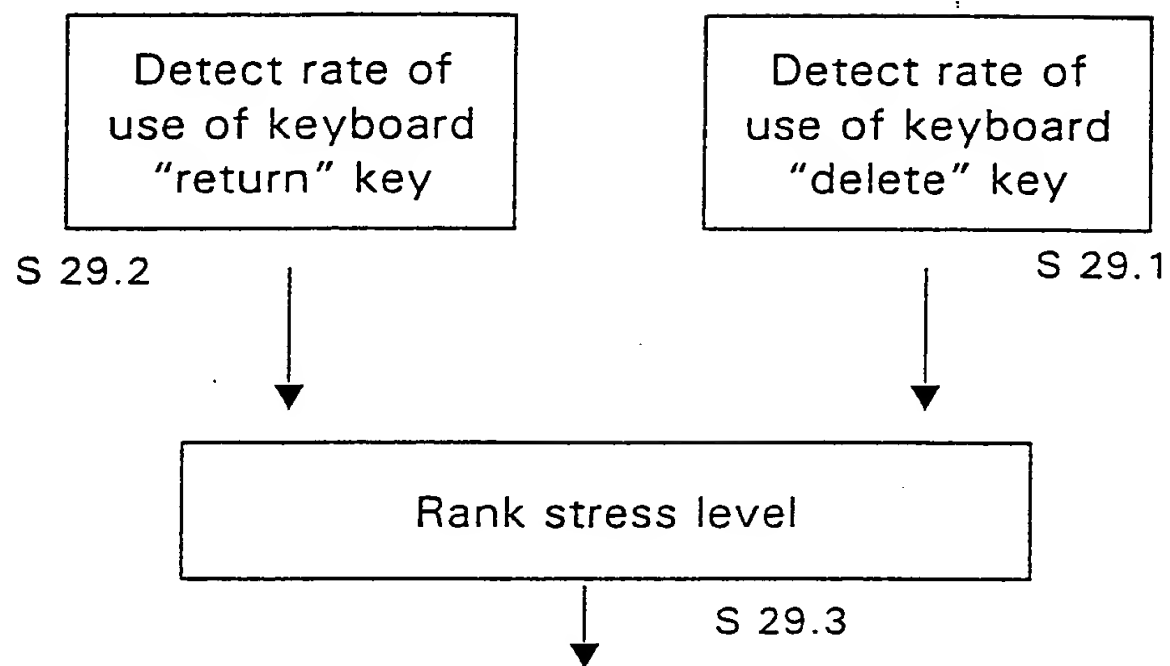


Fig 29